

Page 9	Mark Scheme: Teachers' version	Syllabus	Paper
	IGCSE – May/June 2012	0455	21

6 (a) Possible reasons:

- differences in birth rate/fertility rate
- differences in death rate
- differences in net migration.

Up to 2 marks per reason given.

[6]

(b) Explanation could include:

- high real GDP per head
- high level of savings
- developed financial system
- demographic features e.g. high level of life expectancy, low death rate, low infant mortality rate, low birth rate, low rate of population growth
- high level of education/high rate of literacy
- high level of health care
- high level of capital goods
- good quality infrastructure
- good quality housing and sanitation
- tertiary sector the largest sector, followed by secondary and then primary sector.

6 marks can be gained for a thorough explanation of 2 features.

A maximum of 3 marks for an explanation of one feature.

[6]

A MAX OF 3 FOR A LIST LIKE RESPONSE

(c) Definition of ageing population:

- this occurs where people are living longer and therefore the average age of the population is rising (2).

Possible problems:

- a rise in the dependency ratio, i.e. the ratio of the working population to the dependent population becomes lower
- a change in the labour force; older workers may be less geographically and occupationally mobile (the retirement age is likely to go up)
- older workers may lack the required skills/training
- a higher demand for health services
- a higher demand for welfare services
- a rise in the cost of pensions
- all of this may require taxation to be increased
- a change in the pattern of demand.

Answers which fail to address 'always' can gain no more than 5 marks.

[8]

M.C. 1. A 2. B 3. D 4. D 5. B
6. D 7. C 8. B 9. A 10. C.

6 (a) Explain why the rate of population growth in some countries is greater than in others. [5]

- some countries have a higher birth rate (1) this may be because of, e.g. a high infant mortality rate/lack of availability of contraception/low cost of raising children/need for children to support parents in old age (1)
- some countries have a lower death rate (1) due to, e.g. better health care/housing/nutrition (1)
- a birth rate that exceeds the death rate will lead to a natural increase in population (1)
- differences in fertility rates (1) if the fertility rate is below the replacement ratio, the population size will fall (1)
- differences in net migration (1) some countries experience net emigration whilst others have net immigration (1) due to, e.g. differences in incomes, job opportunities (1)

(b) Explain what is meant when a country is described as being over-populated or under-populated. [5]

- Over-population occurs when the balance between population and resources is wrong (1) when there are too many people (1) relative to resources (1) output per head is lower than possible (1) the country would benefit from either a fall in population (1) or an increase in resources (1) a country could have a large area of land but may still be regarded as over-populated if there is a shortage of, e.g. capital (1)

or

- under-population occurs when the balance between population and resources is wrong (1) when there are too few people (1) relative to resources (1) output per head is lower than possible (1) the country would benefit from a rise in population (1) this would enable resources to be used to a greater extent (1) a country may have a small area of land but may still be regarded as under-populated if there is, e.g. unused natural resources (1)

Allow reference to both over-population or under-population where comments are not simply a mirror image.

Credit, but do not expect, reference to optimum population. Allow up to 2 marks for a correct diagram and 1 mark for explanation.

(c) Discuss whether the Human Development Index (HDI) is the best way of comparing the standard of living in different countries. [10]

Up to 7 marks for why it is:

- it includes GDP/GNI per head (1) but goes beyond this (1)
- it takes into account life expectancy (1) this reflects the quality of health care (1)
- it includes mean and expected years of schooling/adult literacy and school enrolment (1) this reflects access to education (1)
- it divides countries into very high, high, medium and low human development (1) it is measured from 0 to 1 (1)
- there is also an inequality HDI (1) which takes into account the distribution of income (1)

Up to 7 marks for why it is not:

- it does not take into account all relevant indicators (1) for instance it does not include effects on the environment (1) which is included in the ISEW measure (1) it does not include infant mortality (1) number of doctors per head (1) gender inequality (1) political freedom (1) other indicators (1)
- not all countries are included (1) due to a lack of accurate data (1)